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the author insists, put the church on a healthy basis. It will go a long way toward removing the church from politics, a condition that has in the past limited its usefulness.

Mr. Bracq's work is an excellent picture of the more encouraging features of contemporary French life. It will be of interest not only to the political scientist but to the general reader who keeps up with the facts of social progress.

CHESTER LLOYD JONES.

University of Wisconsin.

Bridgman, R. L. *The First Book of World Law.* Pp. v, 308. Price, \$1.65. Boston: Ginn & Co., 1911.

Three recent books, Reinsch's "Public International Unions," Mr. Bridgman's "World Organization" and this volume, mark a departure in the literature of international law. They deal with those parts of the subject which most nearly approach the nature of municipal law, because they have the definite acceptance of the signatory nations through formal acts adopting certain common standards as a part of their own law.

The "First Book of World Law" gathers together the facts which prove that there is in process of development a world government of three departments. There is a world legislature now assured in The Hague Conferences succeeding the earlier conferences of groups of powers which met at the close of periods of war; a world judiciary is appearing in The Hague Court destined to be the beginning of a system of courts with ever widening jurisdiction which will control international affairs; and, finally, the beginnings of a world executive, very humble, it must be admitted, the author finds in such offices as the secretary of the Universal Postal Union and the international committee on weights and measures.

The central portion of the book is given over to a publication of great international acts which have been accepted by a number of states large enough, in the author's opinion, to justify calling the acts world law. Detailed presentation is given the subjects covered by the Universal Postal Union, arbitration, navigation, international sanitation, repression of the African slave trade and the Red Cross. Each division is accompanied by explanatory comments. Minor agreements, accepted by fewer nations, are given in more summary form.

Essentially a reference work, it is probably true, as the author says, that "no person perhaps will wish to read it all, any more than he wishes to read all of his encyclopedia" but no library should neglect to give its patrons access to this material and no one, who wants a review of what has been accomplished in recent international law-making, should neglect the opening and closing chapters of the book. Few of those even who were active in the framing of the various acts, probably realize to what a degree "world law" exists, without a concrete record such as this.

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